SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION

REVIEWER BY Jack DATE 3/18/13
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

G - Mr. Frederick E. Nolting

U/SA - J. B. Koepfli

February 14, 1952

Project 63 of JIOA

In accordance with our conversation on February 12, I am writing you this memorandum and I hope you will bring the matter to the attention of the Department of Defense.

Project 63 has been described as an extension of Operation Paperclip but without the "duress" aspect of the Paperclip operation. I believe it was and is essentially a "denial program" directed at key German scientific and technical personnel. Project 63 was activated in early 1951 and is the responsibility of JIOA. Irrespective of the merits of the objectives of this operation, the manner in which it was carried out led to some very unfortunate repercussions within Germany and was the cause of considerable embarrassment in the conduct of our relations, both with the Germans and with the British.

It was my understanding that Project 63 had been terminated by Department of the Army directive during the latter part of 1951, but that disposition of pending cases had not been definitely curtailed.

It has recently come to my attention that great dissatisfaction has been expressed by a number of the German scientists who have been brought to this country under contract. These individuals have communicated with friends and associates in Germany and as a result, there has arisen additional criticism in Germany of the United States. I am told that these misunderstandings are being exploited by those who wish to damage our relations with Western Germany. Furthermore I am told that at the time the German delegation made a proposal for a European community for scientific research in Paris in December, the question of the removal of German scientists to the United States was raised by Herr Blank.

It is my understanding that the contract offered in Germany was the old "Paperclip" contract which was poorly adapted for current use. At the time of recruitment, however, the individual was informed that certain provisions did not mean anything and could be disregarded. Part of the criticism and dissatisfaction on the part of those brought over is based on the claim that the representations and promises made at the time of recruitment in Germany have not been carried out in the United States.

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In the light of the substantial number of reports which we have had, I would like to suggest that the following questions be raised:

1. Is Project 63 in fact terminated? If not, should not strong representation be made that it be terminated?

2. If Project 63 has been terminated, how many individuals are there who have been placed under contract in Germany but not brought to this country, and will they eventually be brought over?

3. Are those individuals who have been brought over being given the treatment which they were led to expect?

If there is a legitimate basis for dissatisfaction on the part of those individuals who have been brought to this country under contract, and if this is resulting in damage to our relations in Germany, should not every effort be made to correct the situation both with respect to those already in this country and those yet to come?

I can assure you that I am convinced that this whole operation should be reexamined in the light of its effect on the conduct of our relations with Western Germany.

Copy to GER - Geoffrey W. Lewis

W/SA:JEKoepfli:iel

Cleared in substance
GER - Lewis